

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 PORT M 00795 260923Z
ACTION OES-07

INFO OCT-01 EA-10 IO-13 ISO-00 DLOS-09 SS-15 SP-02
SSO-00 CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 INRE-00 NSCE-00 L-03
INT-05 PM-05 DODE-00 COME-00 EB-08 CG-00 DOTE-00
CEQ-01 /089 W

-----123621 260930Z /20

O R 260730Z MAY 78
FM AMEMBASSY PORT MORESBY
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 3310
INFO AMEMBASSY CANBERRA IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY SUVA IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY WELLINGTON IMMEDIATE
USMISSION GENEVA
AMEMBASSY TOKYO
CINCPAC HONOLULU

C O N F I D E N T I A L PORT MORESBY 0795

TOKYO FOR RFO

CINCPAC ALSO FOR POLAD

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: EFIS, PLOS, PP
SUBJECT: SOUTH PACIFIC REGIONAL FISHERIES AGENCY
REF: PORT MORESBY 787

1. DISCUSSIONS MAY 26 BETWEEN EMBOFFS AND PETER WILSON, GPNG
DIRECTOR OF FISHERIES, FOLLOWED UP EMBOFF/LAVENDER DISCUSSIONS
PREVIOUS DAY. WILSON GAVE IMPRESSION GPNG ANXIOUS TO REACH
ACCOMMODATION WITH US AND THAT TWO COUNTRIES NOT FAR APART.

2. WILSON ANXIOUS FOR CONFERENCE CALL WITH BUSBY TO
DISCUSS LATEST POSITION. WE HAVE TOLD HIM WE WOULD PREFER
WRITTEN STATEMENT OF GPNG POSITION FIRST SO THAT BUSBY
WOULD HAVE CLEARLY IN MIND BASIC APPROACH TO BE DISCUSSED.

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AS PER PARA 8 REFTTEL, EMB HAS BEEN PROMISED A LETTER FROM
DFAT BUT INDICATION FROM WILSON IS THAT BASIC POSITION
NOT YET DRAFTED.

3. WILSON'S PROPOSALS BASICALLY FOLLOW THOSE DESCRIBED
BY LAVENDER (REFTTEL), NAMELY, CREATION OF SPRFA AS
COASTAL STATE BODY WITH HIGHLY MIGRATORY SPECIES (HMS)

COMMITTEE APPENDED. THIS COMMITTEE WOULD, IN WILSON'S
CONCEPT, EVENTUALLY BE WORKED INTO AN ARTICLE 64
ARRANGEMENT COVERING HMS.

4. WILSON ATTEMPTED TO CONVINCE EMBOFFS THIS REPRESENTED
MOVEMENT TOWARD US POSITION. WE BELIEVE GPNG FEELING
PRESSURES, PERHAPS SHAKEN BY FISHERIES TEAM
VISIT AND VOYAGEUR PROBLEM, AND IS CONCERNED SOME
AGREEMENT EXCLUDING THEM MIGHT BE REACHED IN APIA. HOWEVER,
WE ARE NOT CONVINCED THAT THEY ARE AT POINT OF CAVING IN
AS WILSON TOLD US MORE THAN ONCE PNG, SOLOMON ISLANDS,
AND FIJI WOULD GO IT ALONE IF OTHERS WENT AHEAD WITH
SPRFA WITH US. ALSO, WHILE THEY LOOK AT AN HMS COMMITTEE
(ULTIMATELY ORGANIZATION) AND PLAY IT AS A CONCESSION,
NET RESULT WOULD BE A REGIONAL ORGANIZATION WITH US OUTSIDE
AND A PROMISE OF A FUTURE HMS BODY WHICH WOULD INCLUDE
US BUT WHICH STILL WOULD BE RECOMMENDATORY AND NOT
REGULATORY. UNANSWERED QUESTION WE HAVE:
IS US WILLING TO FORGET ABOUT MEMBERSHIP IN SPRFA
IN ORDER TO GET WHAT LOOKS LIKE LIMITED HMS CONCESSION?
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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: REGIONAL ORGANIZATIONS, FISHERIES MEETINGS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 26 may 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978PORTM00795
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780222-0845
Format: TEL
From: PORT MORESBY
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780514/aaaaalip.tel
Line Count: 83
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 9bd4b695-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION OES
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 78 PORT MORESBY 787
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 06 may 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 2549405
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: SOUTH PACIFIC REGIONAL FISHERIES AGENCY
TAGS: EFIS, PLOS, PP
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odhc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/9bd4b695-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014